**Raid by Maoists at police establishments in Orissa**

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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of armed Maoists raided several police establishments in Nayagarh (Orissa) and killed civilians and policemen and also looted arms and ammunitions stored in armories as per media reports;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the union Government has sent a team of officers to Orissa and proposed steps to launch of a massive search operation to track down Maoists; and

(d) if so, the concrete steps taken by Government to defuse such activities of Maoists in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRI PRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d), In the night of 15th February, 2008, naxalite cadres attacked police establishments in Nayagarh and Ganjam districts in Orissa. In the attacks, 13 police personnel and 1 civilian were killed, 6 police personnel were injured and a sizeable number of weapons and assorted ammunition were looted.

After the incident, senior police officers of the State Government rushed to the spot with reinforcements and launched operations.

On receipt of information about the incident, a high-level team from Ministry of Home Affairs was rushed to Bhubaneshwar on 16th February, 2008. Contact was also established with Government of Andhra Pradesh and 4 units of specialized forces of Andhra Pradesh police were rushed to Orissa. Senior police officers of Government of Andhra Pradesh also joined at Bhubaneshwar to assist in coordinating joint operations. 4 additional companies of Central paramilitary forces and 4 additional units of specialized forces of Andhra Pradesh Police were also provided subsequently. Aircraft and helicopters were arranged for transporting the Central and Andhra Pradesh police personnel. 4 battalions of Central paramilitary force are already deployed in Orissa for assisting the State police forces in anti-naxalite operations. 3 India Reserve battalions have also been sanctioned to the State.

Concerned State Governments take necessary action to deal with naxalite activities. The Central Government supplements their efforts and resources by a variety of measures that include deployment of Central paramilitary forces which work under the control of the State Government concerned, sanctioning of India Reserve battalions, assistance for strengthening of the State police and Intelligence agencies, re-imbursement of security-related expenditure, assistance in training of State police forces, sharing of Intelligence, bringing about inter-State coordination and assistance in development works through a range of schemes of various Ministries.